

Message Text

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EUR:REBARBOUR
PM/SAS:SMGEIS
DOD/DSAA:COL W DILLARD
DOD/OSD/ISA:COL DMAJORS
S/S:MR. GAMBLE

-----060252Z 076686 /14

P 060057Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 076272

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: AVEROFF LETTER TO CLARK CLIFFORD

1. DURING CLIFFORD MISSION VISIT TO ATHENS, DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF PRESENTED SECRETARY CLIFFORD WITH LETTER DATED FEB 18 INQUIRING INTO STATUS OF CERTAIN MILITARY PROCUREMENT ITEMS. WE UNDERSTAND EMBASSY HAS COPY OF LETTER.

2. THERE FOLLOWS LISTING OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF ALL POINTS RAISED IN THE LETTER. EMBASSY/JUSMAGG SHOULD RELAY INFORMATION TO MINISTRY OF DEFENSE IN MANNER JUDGED MOST APPROPRIATE. DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION PROVIDING INFORMATION ORALLY, POSSIBLY ACCOMPANIED BY "NON-PAPER", OR,
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ALTERNATIVELY, INCORPORATING INFORMATION IN LETTER SIGNED BY AMBASSADOR OR CHIEF OF JUSMAGG. IN EITHER CASE, POINT SHOULD BE MADE THAT SECRETARY CLIFFORD PERSONALLY ASKED THAT THESE ISSUES BE LOOKED INTO UPON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON.

3. INFORMATION IS KEYED TO ORDER OF ITEMS IN AVEROFF

LETTER. FMS CASE NUMBERS ARE PROVIDED, WHEN APPLICABLE, FOR EMBASSY'S REFERENCE.

4. HELLENIC ARMY:

A. MATERIAL: 10,000 LAW FMS CASE VDX:

-- CASE CONSISTS OF 10,000 EACH ROCKET, 66MM, HEAT, M72 (LAW), WHICH WERE SCHEDULED FOR DELIVERY TO GREECE IN SEPTEMBER 1976.

-- THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE WAS NOTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ARMY ON 7 OCTOBER 1976 THAT A SLIPPAGE IN DELIVERY OF THESE ROCKETS WAS UNAVOIDABLE DUE TO PRODUCTION-TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND THAT SUPPLY WAS SUSPENDED, PENDING CORRECTION OF THESE PROBLEMS.

-- QUALITY ASSURANCE AND TESTING REVEALED THAT THE ROCKET MOTORS HAD CRACKS WHICH CAUSED MALFUNCTIONING AND A SAFETY HAZARD.

-- CONTINGENT ON ONGOING TESTS AND EVALUATION, THE 10,000 ROCKETS ARE CURRENTLY PLANNED FOR SHIPMENT TO GREECE IN THE JULY-SEPTEMBER 1977 PERIOD (4TH QUARTER, FY 77).

B. TIMELY DELIVERY OF 170 M-48 TANK CONVERSION KITS.

-- THE GREEK GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED AN FMS CASE FOR 170 EACH TANK KITS ON 14 DECEMBER 1976 WHICH WAS IMPLEMENTED BY
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DA THE SAME DAY. THIS PROMPT ACTION PROVIDED THE GOG THE ADVANTAGE OF A CONTRACT OPTION WHICH EXPIRED 15 DECEMBER 1976 RESULTING IN SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS FOR GREECE.

-- PLANNED DELIVERY OF TWO EACH MODIFICATION KITS FOR CONVERSION OF M48 AND M48A1 TANKS TO M48A5 IS MAY 1977 AND NO DELIVERY SLIPPAGE IS ANTICIPATED.

BEGINNING MARCH 1978 AT THE RATE OF 15 KITS PER MONTH.

5. HELLENIC NAVY:

TIMELY DELIVERY OF 5"/38 AMMUNITION AND DECOY FLARES MK-48-1:

---ALL 5"/38 AMMUNITION ORDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE HAS EITHER BEEN DELIVERED OR IS SCHEDULED TO BE DELIVERED/READY FOR SHIPMENT IN MAY 1977.

-- FMS CASE GR-AEJ IS FOR A QUANTITY OF 2,000 EACH MK-48 DECOY FLARES.

-- THE FLARES WERE REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY IN JULY 1976; HOWEVER, DUE TO ENGINEERING PRODUCTION PROBLEMS, DELIVERY WAS SLIPPED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1977.

-- SUFFICIENT NAVY ASSETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO PERMIT DIVERSION TO FILL THE HELLENIC REQUIREMENT.

6. HELLENIC AIR FORCE:

A. EXPORT LICENSE FOR RADAR HOMING AND WARNING SYSTEMS (RHAW):

-- LICENSES HAVE BEEN ISSUED; STATE DEPARTMENT CASE NUMBERS 28841 AND CO3679 APPLY.

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-- CONTACT WITH GENERAL INSTRUMENTS CORPORATION INDICATES THAT A CONTRACT FOR THESE ITEMS HAS BEEN SIGNED AND THE FIRST INSTALLMENT PAID BY THE HAF.

B. MUNITIONS:

(1) SPARROW MISSILES:

-- IN AUGUST 1976, THE HELLENIC AIR FORCE REQUESTED A LETTER OF OFFER FOR 50 EACH AIM-7E-2/3 SPARROW MISSILES.

-- IN SEPTEMBER 1976, THEY INCREASED THE REQUIREMENT TO 100 EACH, AND IN DECEMBER 1976 THEY REQUESTED THAT THE QUANTITY BE REDUCED AS REQUIRED, NOT TO EXCEED DOLS 7M.

-- IN FEBRUARY 1977, THE HAF REQUESTED THE REQUIREMENT BE RAISED BACK TO 100 EACH. THE PROGRAM WILL REQUIRE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, SINCE IT WILL BE ABOVE DOLS 7M AND CNO (OP-632) PROVIDED NOTIFICATION TO DSAA ON 23 FEBRUARY 1977.

-- THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOW REVIEWING THE REQUEST FOR LETTER OF OFFER IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES. AS SOON AS FORMAL NOTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSED SALE IS FORWARDED TO THE US CONGRESS, THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WILL BE NOTIFIED.

(2) MAVERICK AGM-65B:

-- THIS NEW TYPE OF MAVERICK MISSILE HAS NOT BEEN RELEASED

FOR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (FMS).

(3) EOGB TYPE GBU-15V:

-- GREECE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THE AIR FORCE PRODUCTION
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DECISION ON THIS SYSTEM IS NOT EXPECTED BEFORE OCTOBER
1977.

-- PRICE AND AVAILABILITY INFORMATION ON THE GBU-15 WILL
NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL AFTER THE PRODUCTION DECISION.

(4) NEW F/RF-4E AIRCRAFT PROGRAM:

-- THE GREEKS HAVE REQUESTED THAT US GOVERNMENT WAIVE THE
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND ASSET USE CHARGES WHICH IS
POSSIBLE UNDER US LAW FOR PARTICULAR SALES THAT WOULD, IF
MADE, SIGNIFICANTLY ADVANCE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
INTERESTS IN NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION STANDARDI-
ZATION.

-- WE ARE CURRENTLY STAFFING A GREEK REQUEST FOR WAIVER
OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND ASSET USE CHARGES
ASSOCIATED WITH THE GREEK PURCHASE OF F/RF-4 AIRCRAFT.
THE DECISION IS EXPECTED SHORTLY.

-- FY 77 US GOVERNMENT CREDITS FOR GREECE (DOLS 122.0 MIL-
LION) HAVE BEEN APPLIED TO MAKE THE GREEK TRUST FUND SOL-
VENT.

-- THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL CREDIT FUNDS AVAILABLE THAT
CAN BE APPLIED TO THE GREEK F/RF-4 PROGRAM.

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